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In addition thereto, and in conformity with article 16 of the convention for the pacific settlement of international conflicts, of the 29th of July, 1899, which has recognized arbitration as the most efficacious, and at the same time the most equitable means of settling litigations, which have not been determined through the diplomatic channels, the Conference has expressed the following *Hope*:

The Conference expresses the hope that, to reach an interpretation and an application as exact as possible of the Convention of Geneva, the contracting Powers shall submit to the Permanent Court of The Hague, if the case or the circumstances lend themselves thereto, the differences which in time of peace may be raised between them in relation to the interpretation of the said Convention:

This *Hope* was voted for by the following states:

Germany, Argentine Republic, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Congo, Denmark, Spain (ad referendum), United States of America, United States of Brazil, France, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Norway, The Netherlands, Peru, Persia, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, Siam, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay.

The wish was rejected by the following States:

Corea, Great Britain and Japan.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the delegates have signed the present protocol.

Done at Geneva, the sixth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and six, in a single copy, which shall remain in the archives of the Swiss Confederation and certified copies of which shall be delivered to the contracting parties through diplomatic channels.

(Here follow the signatures.)

Macedonian Financial "Règlement." 1906.

"Règlement" for the Financial Service of the three Vilayets of Roumelia.

ARTICLE 1. A Financial Commission for a term of two years is constituted for the three Vilayets of Salonica, Kossovo, and Monastir.

This Commission will exercise its functions in the name of the Imperial Ottoman Government.

It is composed of the Inspector-General of the Vilayets of Roumelia, the Civil Agents of Austria-Hungary and Russia, and of five Advisers

nominated for this purpose by the Imperial Ottoman Government and the Governments of Germany, France, Great Britain, and Italy.

Its mission is:

1. To insure the application of the Regulation agreed upon between the Imperial Ottoman Ministry of Finance and the Imperial Ottoman Bank, dated the 22nd February, 1320 (the 7th March, 1905), as defined by the present Regulation;

2. To supervise the regular collection of taxes, including the tithe;

3. To examine the Budgets of the three vilayets, which must be communicated to it before becoming final, and to supervise their strict performance after they have received the Imperial sanction;

4. To supervise the execution of the financial reforms.

ART. 2. The Commission will have its seat at Salonica, where its offices will be established. Its meetings, however, will always be held in the town in which the President resides.

ART. 3. The Commission will be presided over by the Inspector-General and, in the event of his absence or inability to attend, by a high Ottoman official named by him. It will discuss at its sittings all matters within its province (Article 1.)

ART. 4. A member of the Commission will assist the President in the capacity of "adjoint." These duties will be performed in turn for a period of three months by the Civil Agents of Austria-Hungary and Russia and by the German, French, British, and Italian advisers, in the alphabetical order of the Powers.

This "adjoint" is charged with:

1. The regulation, in conjunction with the President, of minor matters not requiring the decision of the Assembled Commission;

2. The internal service of the Commission; and

3. The relations between the Commission and the Imperial Ottoman Bank.

He will accompany the President on his journeys. When he is obliged to absent himself from Salonica, his duties, as specified under headings 2 and 3, will devolve upon the member who comes next to him in alphabetical order.

ART. 5. The Commission will sit as a rule once a week. It will be summoned in extraordinary session whenever the President considers it necessary, or when two members of the Commission wish it.

Any member may enter on the order of the day matters which he wishes to submit to the deliberations of the Commission.

The presence of at least four members, including the President or his substitute, will be necessary to render valid the deliberations and the decisions of the Commission. Any absent member or any member unable to attend may be represented by one of his colleagues; the Civil Agents will, in that case, be replaced by their "adjoints."

The decisions of the Commission will be taken by a majority of votes. In the event of an equal division of votes, the President will have a casting vote. If the President refuses to carry out a decision of the Commission, he shall submit the case to the Sublime Porte or to the Imperial Ministry of Finance; the foreign members of the Financial Commission shall, on their part, inform their respective authorities.

ART. 6. Budget proposals, as determined by the Regulation of the 22nd of February, 1320 (7th March, 1905), for the three vilayets, shall be delivered every year, at latest 1st January (N. S.), to the Commission, which shall complete their examination in one month's time.

The Commission shall have the right to modify under the headings of receipts and expenditure arrangements which would not be in conformity with existing laws or in accordance with the economic and financial needs of the country.

The Commission shall in the first instance satisfy itself that the Budget contains the necessary provisions for the requirements of the civil administration, including gendarmerie and police.

On the request of the Commission, it shall be supplied with all information concerning the receipts of the Budget, as well as the expenditure of the civil administration.

Budgets cannot be modified during the financial year.

On the request of the Inspector-General, however, the Commission may permit the transfer of a portion of the credits from one heading of the Budget to another, in the same vilayet.

ART. 7. All collections, of whatever character, made in the three vilayets, with the exception, however, of customs dues and revenues appropriated to the Public Debt by the Decree of the 28th Mouharrem, 1299, or by Agreements in force, shall be entered among the receipts of the Budget.

The preliminary deduction of 5 per cent. reserved for public works and mentioned in Article 11 of the Regulation of the 7th of March, 1905, will constitute the minimum under the heading of that kind of expenditure, and will have to be supported by a detailed statement. If at the end of the financial year this heading shows a surplus, the amount shall be carried forward to the Budget of the following year for the same uses:

ART. 8. The Imperial Ottoman Bank shall communicate to the Commission detailed monthly statements of receipts and expenditure. It shall further supply, if demanded all books,, accounts, and correspondence relating to the service with which it is charged by the Regulation of the 22nd February, 1320 (7th March, 1905).

The Commission will verify the settlement of each financial year, which shall be laid before it by the Imperial Ottoman Bank, within three months' time from the end of the financial year.

The accounts kept by the Imperial Ottoman Bank for the service of the Treasury of the three vilayets shall be kept at the agency of this bank at Salonica.

ART. 9. The Commission, while safeguarding the sovereign rights of the Imperial Government, will have to study all proposals for new taxes or charges, as well as every scheme for modifying the rate or manner of assessment of existing taxes, or the organization of the financial services applicable to the three vilayets. The conclusions of the Commission shall be submitted by the Inspector-General to the Sublime Porte.

ART. 10. The Commission shall nominate as Inspectors, one for each vilayet, Ottoman subjects knowing the official language of the Empire, who will superintend the agents employed in the various services of the Treasury.

These Inspectors, whose selection shall be approved by the Imperial Ottoman Government, shall have the power to make inspections in the offices of the financial services, to call for all books, accounts, and documents relating to the public finances, and to verify amounts in hand, without, however, being able to interfere directly in the administration of the services. They shall address their reports to the Commission.

The Commission will likewise be supplied immediately with copies of the reports of the Financial Inspectors instituted by the Regulation of the 25th May, 1312. It will have the power to require joint inspection to be made by these Inspectors and by those nominated by it in pursuance of the present Article.

The Commission, or the service member on duty, in concert with the President, shall examine all complaints which may reach them concerning the financial services of the three vilayets, and which are based upon events which have occurred subsequent to the creation of the Commission.

If, in the reports or complaints mentioned in the present Article, charges of irregularities or abuses are brought against officials, the Inspectors of the Commission shall be entitled to be present at the investigations arising therefrom.

The Commission shall be kept informed by the President of the disciplinary or judicial steps taken by the Government in respect of delinquent officials.

ART. 11. All information respecting irregularities or abuses discovered in the working of the financial services, and particularly in the collection of taxes, including the tithe, shall be transmitted to the Commission by the competent authority.

ART. 12. All changes in the financial personnel shall be brought to the notice of the Commission, with the reasons which have suggested them. The Commission shall call for such administrative measures as it shall deem necessary in the case of financial officials convicted of delinquencies.

ART. 13. The Commission shall have the right to be represented at all awards of contracts made for the civil and financial services of the three vilayets.

ART. 14. The administrative expenses of the Commission, exclusive of the salaries of the members, shall be included in three equal portions in the Budget of each of the three vilayets.

ART. 15. The Commission will settle its mode of procedure.

Documents Relating to the Japanese-Korean Situation, 1894-1905

1. Treaty between Korea and Japan ratified on the 23rd day of the sixth moon of the five hundred and third year of the foundation of Korea and the 25th day of July of the twenty-seventh year of Meiji (July 25, 1894).

2. Memorandum between Japan and Russia of May 14, 1896. (So-called Komura-Waeber Memorandum.)

3. Protocol concerning the question of Korea concluded between Japan and Russia on June 9, 1896. (So-called Yamagata-Lobanow Protocol.)

4. Protocol concerning the question of Korea concluded between Japan and Russia on April 25, 1898. (So-called Nissi-Rosen Protocol.)

5. Protocol concluded between Japan and Korea on Feb. 23, 1904.

6. Agreement between Japan and Korea signed Aug. 22, 1904.

7. Agreement between Japan and Korea signed April 1, 1905, regarding the communication services in Korea.